

Board Agenda Item  
April 3, 2006

3:30 p.m.

Public Hearing on a Resolution to Increase Board Members' Annual Salaries Effective January 1, 2008

ISSUE:

Board resolution to consider an increase in Board members' annual salaries from \$59,000 to \$75,000 beginning with the next elected Board in January 2008.

RECOMMENDATION:

The County Executive recommends that the Board adopt the attached Resolution to increase Board members' annual salaries from \$59,000 to \$75,000 beginning with the next elected Board in January 2008.

TIMING:

A public hearing has been advertised for 3:30 p.m. on April 3, 2006. If adopted by the Board, Board member annual salaries will increase from \$59,000 to \$75,000 beginning with the next elected Board in January 2008.

BACKGROUND:

The Board cannot increase the salary paid to its members during the present term of office, but the Board may increase the salary that will be paid to those members of the Board who are elected to serve during the next term of office. The members of the next term of the Board will be elected on November 6, 2007, and those persons will take office on January 1, 2008. Virginia Code Section 15.2-846 requires the Board to take action to provide for any such increase no later than April 15, 2007.

The County Executive recommends that the Board authorize advertisement of an increase to Board members' annual salaries from \$59,000 to \$75,000 beginning with the next elected Board in January 2008. This increase is based on a market pay analysis, a comparison with other similar surrounding jurisdictions, and is consistent with the compensation adjustments that have been provided to the general County workforce since the Board salaries were last adjusted in 2000. The proposed salary increase equates to an average annual increase of three percent. The salary levels of Chairpersons/Board Members in similar surrounding jurisdictions are: Montgomery County, Maryland, \$84,320/\$76,654; Prince Georges County, MD \$78,114/\$73,114; and Washington, DC \$139,200/\$95,520.

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Funding to cover the cost of the increase would be made available in the FY 2008 budget. There is no fiscal impact in FY 2007 as a result of the proposed increase, however advertisement of the increase has been included with the FY 2007 Advertised Budget Plan to provide the opportunity for public review and comment along with the FY 2007 budget public hearings.

On September 28, 1998, the Board last increased the annual salary paid to Board members'. Salaries were increased from \$45,000 to \$59,000 beginning with Board Members assuming office as of January 1, 2000. The salary has not changed since that time.

Virginia Code Section 15.2-1427 specifies the time frame within which the advertisement must be published. That section provides that the current Board cannot increase the salaries of the present members, but the current Board, if it acts prior to April 15, 2007, may increase the salaries paid to those members who assume office on January 1, 2008. Therefore, staff recommends that the Board authorize the Resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:  
None in FY 2007.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:  
Attachment 1: Resolution

STAFF:  
Susan W. Datta, Director, Department of Management and Budget  
Michael Long, Senior Assistant County Attorney